

Message Text

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56

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSM-03 PRS-01 SS-15

PA-01 USIE-00 INRE-00 INR-07 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00

PM-04 L-03 H-02 DODE-00 ACDA-07 SP-02 CIAE-00 NSAE-00

MC-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /097 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:MKBERRY:DP

APPROVED BY NEA/P:MKBERRY

S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)

SSM-MR. MCANDREW

NEA - MS. GRIFFIN

NEA/PAB - MR. LANDE

NEA/ARP - MR. DICKMAN

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O 281823Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
USMISSION SINAI
USCINCEUR

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GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL, CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - AUGUST 27,1976

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR AUGUST 27,
1976:

Q. CAN YOU CLARIFY HOW MUCH, IN DOLLAR TERMS, DOES THE
ADMINISTRATION PLAN TO SUBMIT TO THE CONGRESS NEXT WEEK?

A. THE TOTAL FIGURE OF LETTERS OF OFFER FOR ALL COUNTRIES,
WHICH THEY PLAN TO SUBMIT NEXT WEEK, WILL BE ABOUT DOLS 5
BILLION.

NOW AS I UNDERSTAND IT, THIS DOES NOT REPRESENT A TOTAL
PROGRAM FOR THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED FOR THIS CURRENT
CALENDAR YEAR OR FISCAL YEAR. IT ONLY REPRESENTS LETTERS
OF OFFER WHICH ARE TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS NEXT
WEEK FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE CONGRESS DURING THEIR PRESENT
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SESSION AND BEFORE THEY ADJOURN FOR THE ELECTION.

Q. WHICH COUNTRIES ARE THESE?

A. ON BACKGROUND, IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE SECRE-
TARY WAS DISCUSSING WITH THE COMMITTEE YESTERDAY PROPOSED
MILITARY SALES WHICH WILL BE PROPOSED IN THESE LETTERS OF
OFFER TO IRAN, ISRAEL, PAKISTAN AND SAUDI ARABIA. END

BACKGROUND. I WOULD ALSO NOTE THAT THE FACT THAT THEY ARE BEING SUBMITTED AT THIS TIME IS NOT SOME PART OF AN ARMS SALE POLICY. RATHER, IT IS THE CIRCUMSTANCE OF THE PROCESS.

IN OTHER WORDS, WE HAVE TO GET THEM UP NEXT WEEK TO MEET THE 30-DAY REQUIREMENT THAT THEY BE BEFORE THE CONGRESS FOR THIRTY DAYS. AND WE ARE TRYING TO GET THEM UP SO THEY WILL BE THERE DURING THE CURRENT SESSION.

Q. CAN YOU BREAK IT DOWN BY COUNTRIES?

A. NO, I AM NOT ABLE TO TODAY.

Q. ON PAKISTAN, DURING THE SECRETARY'S RECENT VISIT THERE, IT WAS SAID THAT UNLESS THERE WAS A SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT ON PAKISTAN'S ARRANGEMENTS TO BUY A REPROCESSING PLANT FROM FRANCE, PAKISTAN WOULD NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO BUY A-7 BOMBERS. DO YOU KNOW IF THE A-7 BOMBERS ARE INCLUDED IN THIS SALE?

A. I JUST AM NOT ABLE TO GO INTO THE DETAILS OF IT. WHAT YOU ARE REFERRING TO IS THE EFFECT OF THE SYMINGTON AMENDMENT ON ARMS SALES TO PAKISTAN --

A. NO, I AM NOT.

Q. OH?

A. NO, THIS IS A MILITARY SALE WHICH WE WERE TOLD WOULD NOT BE APPROVED IF THERE WASN'T A SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENT ON IT.

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A. WELL, IN ANY CASE, I JUST DO NOT HAVE THE BREAKDOWN ON THE ITEMS FOR THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED.

Q. YOU ARE NOT SAYING, HOWEVER, DOLS 5 BILLION IN MILITARY SALES FOR SAUDI ARABIA COULD STILL EMERGE?

A. WHAT I AM SAYING IS THAT SAUDI ARABIA IS PART OF THIS PACKAGE, THE TOTAL OF WHICH IS DOLS 5 BILLION. THE AMOUNT FOR SAUDI ARABIA IS CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN THAT.

Q. BUT THIS STILL DOES NOT MEAN THAT SAUDI ARABIA MAY NOT END UP WITH DOLS 5 BILLION --

A. I DO NOT KNOW WHAT IT WILL END UP WITH. BUT OF COURSE, THESE LETTERS OF OFFER FOR THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED ARE THE

LETTERS WE ARE SENDING UP NOW. BUT, AS YOU KNOW, ANY ARMS TRANSACTIONS MAY TRANSPIRE OVER A PERIOD OF YEARS.

Q. I UNDERSTOOD THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER TOLD THE COMMITTEE YESTERDAY THAT THE PLANS ARE IN THE WORKS FOR A PROGRAM OF SALES TO SAUDI ARABIA WHICH TOTALS ABOUT DOLS 5 BILLION. IS THAT CORRECT?

A. NO, IT IS NOT CORRECT.

Q. WHAT DID HE SAY ABOUT THE NUMBER FOR SAUDI ARABIA?

A. I AM NOT ABLE TO GIVE YOU THE BREAKDOWN. ALL I CAN TELL YOU TODAY IS THAT WE WILL BE SENDING THESE LETTERS OF OFFER UP NEXT WEEK--THAT IT IS CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN THE TOTAL OF THE DOLS 5 BILLION. IT IS ONLY A PART OF THAT.

Q. NO, THAT IS NOT THE POINT. THE POINT IS NOT WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO SEND UP NEXT WEEK, BUT WHAT IS THE SALES PROGRAM THAT IS BEING CONTEMPLATED FOR SAUDI ARABIA?

A. I DO NOT KNOW A SALES PROGRAM BEING CONTEMPLATED FOR SAUDI ARABIA BEYOND THESE LETTERS OF OFFER THAT ARE GOING OUT NEXT WEEK, BUT LET ME CHECK FURTHER.

Q. DID SECRETARY KISSINGER TELL THE COMMITTEE YESTERDAY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT THE SAUDI ARABIA PROGRAM THAT IS ANTICIPATED, NOT JUST THE PART THAT MAY GO UP IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, IS ABOUT DOLS 5 BILLION?

A. I WILL HAVE TO TAKE THAT QUESTION.

Q. O.K.

Q. SO FAR AS THE PARTICULAR WEAPONS CONCERNED--I WANT TO UNDERSTAND THIS--WHAT GOES UP NEXT WEEK ON A PARTICULAR WEAPON WOULD COVER THAT WEAPON ENTIRELY? RIGHT?

IN OTHER WORDS, ONE WEAPONS DELIVERY DOESN'T GO UP IN TWO PIECES, DOES IT?

DO YOU FOLLOW MY QUESTION? BECAUSE I AM NOT SURE I EXPLAINED IT WELL.

IN OTHER WORDS, IF THERE IS CONCERN, FOR INSTANCE, OVER SIDEWINDERS, THEY COULDN'T--YOU WOULDN'T ENTERTAIN SENDING UP NEXT WEEK A DEAL FOR 750 SIDEWINDERS, LET'S SAY, AND THEN COME BACK TWO MONTHS LATER FOR 250 MORE? IF YOU ARE

GOING TO ASK FOR SIDEWINDERS, YOU WILL ASK FOR THEM ALL AT
ONCE.

IS THAT THE WAY IT WORKS, OR --

A. THIS IS NOT GOING TO BE A "SHELL GAME". IT IS PART OF
A PACKAGE.

I AM NOT SAYING THAT SAUDI ARABIA MIGHT NOT ORDER "X"
WEAPONS, OR THAT ANY COUNTRY, AT SOME LATER POINT MIGHT NOT
ORDER MORE.

BUT WE ARE DISCUSSING WHAT IS CURRENT. THAT IS WHAT THE
SECRETARY WAS DISCUSSING IN ITS ENTIRETY BEFORE THE CON-
GRESS.

Q. BUT WHAT I AM TRYING TO SAY--IF I CAN PUT IT BETTER:
ONE WEAPONS DEAL IS NOT BROKEN INTO TWO PARTS, IS IT?

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A. THAT IS NOT MY UNDERSTANDING. NO.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, BRIEFING MATERIALS, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE214418
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MKBERRY:DP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760328-0445
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976089/aaaaahkj.tel
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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To: AMMAN BEIRUT DAMASCUS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
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